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Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 293079

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMAN

FOL REPEAT NAIROBI 13445 ACTION SECSTATE INFO GEORGETOWN
30 NOV.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 13445

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TSGS, OCON, PORG, UNESCO
SUBJECT: UNESCO 19TC: GUYANA'S POSITION AT NAIROBI'S GC

REF: STATE 285579

1. AS UDEL HAD NOT REGISTERED INDIVIDUAL GUYANA VOTES ON ITEMS PRE REFTEL, DELOFF APPPROACHED GUYANA REP DIRECTLY TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS.

2. GUYANA REP SAID HIS DEL HAD RECEIVED SPECIFIC INSTRUC-
TIONS TO MAINTAIN LOW PROFILE AND NOT TO TAKE
ACTIVE ROLE IN POLITICAL ISSUES SUCH AS ISRAELI ITEMS AND
THE MASS MEDIA ISSUES WHENEVER THEY CAME TO A VOTE. ON INSTRUC-
TIONS, DEL DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY DEBATE THESE ITEMS, AND
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ABSTAINED ON OCCUPIED TERRITIRIES, JERUSALEM, AND MASS MEDIA

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ISSUES WHENEVER THEY CAME TO A VOTE. INSTRUCTIONS FURTHER-
MORE STRESSED THAT DEL EXPEND ITS ENERGY WORKING FOR SUB-
STANTIVE PROGRAMS IN WHICH GUYANA INTERESTED IN FIELDS OF
CULTURE AND EDUCATION, AND THIS PRECISELY WHAT DEL ENPHASIZED
IN ITS WORK.

3. AS GUYANA REP WAS FRIENTLY AND ESPECIALLY FORTHCOMING,
CONVERSATION TURNED TO US-GUYANA RELATIONS WHICH REP REGRETTED
HAD BEEN DETERIORATING OVER PAST YEARS AND HAD RECENTLY TAKEN
WHARP TURN FOR WORSE OWING TO RECENT AIRPLANE CRASH IN WHICH
10 GUYANESE WERE KILLED. HE SAID THAT GUYANA'S PRIME
MINISTER WOULD DELIVER MAJOR POLICY SPEECH ON DECEMBER 14 IN
WHICH HE FELT CERTAIN WOULD ADDRESS QUESTION OF GUYANA'S
RELATIONS WITH US. WITHOUT SAYING SO EXPLICITLY, REP IMPLIED
THAT IMPACT OF AIRPLACE CRASH (FOR WHICH IT SEEMS CERTAIN
SEGMENTS GUYANESE OPINION FEEL US RESPONSIBLE) AND
FRUSTRATION WITH US POLICY IN GENERAL MIGHT LEAD TO EVER MORE
SERIOUS CRISIS IN US-GUYANESE RELATIONS WHICH MAY WELL BE
SPELLED OUT IN PRIME MINISTER'5S SPEECH.

4. IN PARTICULAR, REP NOTED PERSONAL VIEWS CONCERNING
SEVERAL US POLICY ACTIONS AND ATTITUDES WHICH HE SAID HAVE
HELPED TO SOUR AND DAMAGE GUYANA'S RELATIONS WITH US, AND WITH
THIRD WORLD IN GENERAL. ONE OF THESE WAS EXCESSIVE "ARM-
TWISTING" IN FORM OF DEMARCHES ON ISSUES SUCH AS ISRAELI
ITEMS BEFORE CONFERENCE (HE WAS WELL AWARE THAT SUCH
DEMARCHES HAD BEEN MADE TO GUYANESE GOVT, AND QUICLY PUT TOGETHER
THESE AND USDEL CONVERSATION WITH HIM). GUYANA DEL
SAID THESE DEMARCHES OFTEM MAKE IT ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT FOR
GOVTS TO DEAL WITH SPECIFIC ISSUES SINCE THEY ARE DISCUSSED
IN THE CABINET, AND MEBERS, ESPECIALLY MORE RADICALLY
ORIENTED, TAKE EXTREME OFFENSE AT WHAT IS OFTEN INTERPRETED
AS INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. DEMARCHES THEREFORE
UNDERCUT POSITIONS OF MORE MODERATE OFFICIALS WHO COULD NOT
AFFORD TO EXPOSE THEMSELVES BY SPEAKING OUT AGAINST MORE
"NATIONALISTIC" OR RADICAL OFFICIALS. HE WENT ON THAT IF
OTHER LDC'S FIND OUT THAT ONE'S GOVT HAS RESPONDED TO
SUCH DEMARCHES, THAT IT IS OFTN HELD UP TO RIDUCULE
AND MAY EVEN SUFFER SANCTIONS OF SOME SORT OR ANOTHER ITSELF.
A MUCH MORE ACCEPTABLE MODUS OPERANDI, HE CONCLUDED, WOULD BE
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TO APPROACH DELEGATES ASSIGNED TO A PARTICULAR CONFERENCE AND
TO DEAL WITH THEM DIRECTLY.

5. GUYANA REP ALSO SIGNALED CONCERN WITH USDEL
APPROACH IN NAIROBI BY NOTING THAT AFTER GUYANA HAD VOTED IN
UN FOR RES 3379 THAT A US AID PROGRAM HAD BEEN CURTLY TER-
MINATED. ON THIS ACCOUNT, HE URGED THAT US SHOULD TRY TO
INCREASE ITS FOREIGN POLICY SOPHISTICATION BY TRYING TO

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UNDERSTAND TH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A NATION'S PUBLIC STANCES
AND ITS TRUE POLICY AND GENUINE INCLINATIONS. HE NOTED THAT
WHEN A LITTLE STATE SUCH AS GUYANA IS BLUDGEONED BY
US WITH TERMINATION OF AID PROGRAM OVER ITAM WHICH ALMOST
ALL LDC'S WOULD CONSIDER OF PERIPHERAL INTEREST TO US,
IT IS NO WONDER THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THESE COUNTRIES AND
US SUFFER IN PROCESS.

6. USDEL WAS IMPRESSED BY GUYANA REP'S WARM, COOPERA-
TIVE AND FORTHRIGHT MANNER IN DISCUSSING PROBLEM OF U-
GUYANA RELATIONS, AND ESPECIALLY WHAT HE IMPARTED AS SENSE
OF URGENCY FOR MENDING RELATIONS BEFORE GAP GECOMES UNBRIDGE-
ABLE. IF OTHER GUYANESE DIPLOMATS ARE AS SEEMINGLY CONCERNED
AND HARBOR MEASURE OF GOOD WILL AS THIS ONE, WE COULD HOPE
THAT MUTUAL PROBLEMS COULD BE WORKED OUT SUCCESSFULLY.
MARSHMLL

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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